

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 22-36 are pending in this application. Claim 13 has been amended and new claims 22 - 36 have been added herein.

The amendment to claim 12 corrects a typographical error. The amendment to claim 13 changes the dependency of the claim but does not change the scope of the claim.

Support for the newly added claims may be found in the specification as follows:

Claims 27 and 28 are supported by the description on page 8, lines 23-27.

Claims 29-30 are supported by the description on page 14, lines 4-9.

Claim 31 is supported by the description on page 19, lines 21-23.

Claim 32 is supported by the description on page 9, lines 5-15.

Claims 33-34 are supported by the description on page 8, lines 23-27.

Claim 35 is supported by the description on page 15, lines 5-6.

Claims 26 is supported by the description on page 20, lines 23-28.

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-5 and 22-24, drawn to modified polypeptides;**
- II Claims 6-13 and 25-26, drawn to conjugates of modified polypeptides.**

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species (e.g. a single compound) for prosecution on the merits and provide a chemical formula corresponding thereto which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants respectfully elect Group II, including

claims 6-13 and 25-26, with traverse of the restriction requirement.

In response to the species requirement, Applicants respectfully elect 4-maleimidobutyl-Ala-(Tyr(PO₃H₂))₅-β Ala (SEQ ID NO:18), the compound recited in claim 25. Applicants identify claims 6-13 and 25-36 as reading on the elected species.

In traversing the restriction requirement, Applicants make the following remarks:

The polypeptides of Group I include an amino acid residue introducing a strong acid residue thereinto and having tyrosine sulfate residues. Further, the compounds of Group II are polypeptides having amino acid residues derived from a strong acid residue and combined products thereof with a substance having affinity for an analyte to be measured in a sample of body fluids or cells.

The polypeptides of Groups I and II include the same amino acid residue derived from a strong acid residue. Applicants therefore submit that no additional search burden is imposed by the examination of Groups I and II at the same time. Withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all of the claims are therefore respectfully requested.

Amendment under 37 CFR 1.111
Nobuko Imajo et al.

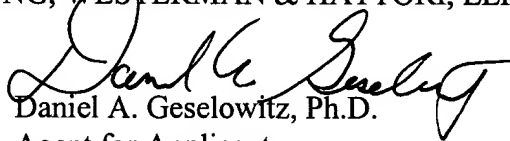
U.S. Patent Application S.N. 09/883,394
Attorney Docket No. 960587A

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned agent at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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